

CATTLE UNDERPASSES

947. Hon BARRY HOUSE to the Minister for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries:

- (1) Does the minister support the current view of Main Roads that requires farmers who hold property on both sides of busy major roads, and who frequently move cattle across those roads, to completely fund the underpasses desired to make those roads safer?
- (2) Has the minister requested, or does he intend to request, government support for those cattle underpass projects by black spot road funding, by subsidy or by some other means?

Hon KIM CHANCE replied:

- (1)-(2) This issue has not been discussed with me by Main Roads or raised with me by farm lobby groups. I am aware of the type of crossings the member is talking about. They are quite common in the eastern States. Not having considered the matter at any great length, I think it is unreasonable for farmers to fully fund such crossings. That would be my position in any discussions that I may have with Main Roads. When it is in the interests of public safety to have under-road animal passageways, the public ought to pay a reasonable share of the costs.